

G. R. S. App. F. IX-4]

Previous References.

1942-3.  
( War )

War File No. 13-42

Serial Nos. 1

Later References.

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## GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

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Serial Nos. One only

Part B for August 1942.

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SUBJECT.

Co-operation between the civil population  
in the State & the military.

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M. Krishnam:  
24.8.42

W 13-42-1

581  
W

Bangalore,

11th August 1942.

DEWAN'S MINUTE

FILE No.

194

Suc 36/243

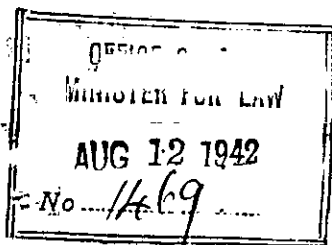
W 92

I send herewith the correspondence with the Hon'ble the Resident on the subject of co-operation between the civil population in the State and the Military, for information and record.

MU

DEWAN.

Chief Secretary )



12/5

Suc 36

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Law Ministry

13/82

13/52

B

Secret.

D.O.No.F.112/1942.



THE RESIDENCY,  
BANGALORE.

10th August 1942.

*2/11/42 Adm. & sent to Mr. D.S.K. for Mr. 10/8/42 Mysore, Mr. Madhava Rau*

I enclose extracts from a letter I received some time ago from Lt General Sir Noel Beresford-Peirse, G.O.C. Southern Army on the subject of co-operation between the civil population and the military. This is the subject about which I spoke on Friday.

2. I replied to the G.O.C. that I thought this was a good scheme and well worth trying. I also mentioned the fact that Mr. Kesavaiengar was being appointed Liaison Officer to Area Headquarters and that I thought he would be the very man to start, and organise such village groups. I said that I thought the Police would be kept out of the proposition.

3. I shall be grateful for your views as early as possible as it is some time since the General wrote his letter. If you agree Mr. Kesavaiengar might come and see me and I could ask for a Staff Officer also to come to the Residency to meet him.

Pradhana Siromani N. Madhava Rau Esq., B.A., B.L.,  
Dewan of Mysore, Bangalore.

"I have been considering whether more could be done both to improve the contacts and relations between the troops and the local population and bring the war home to the inhabitants of the Southern Army Area. My object is to make the population realize it is their war, that they are all in it irrespective of creed, race and caste, and that the troops who live among them are their own troops and have come in their interest, and will welcome their active assistance.

2. I am sure that any scheme which involves the provision of arms, uniform pay or pensions is open to the insuperable objections that arms are not available, that recruitment for the army has a prior claim and that the populace is not ripe for such a scheme at the present time.

3. But I suggest what a useful start might be made by organising village groups pledged to look out for and report suspicious strangers, to counteract defeatist talk, to enter into friendly relations with the troops, to act as guides and interpreters for them and above all to convey information of the enemy's movements.

From a purely military point of view I attach a very real importance to the last point. It might for instance make all the difference to the Garrison of an aerodrome or vulnerable point if it received earlier warning of the enemy's approach than its own resources permitted. It might enable the commander of a detachment to avoid an ambush. It might assist the command of a field formation to improve his plans,

4. I suggest that the members of these village groups should not even wear distinguishing marks such as arm bands so as to remain indistinguishable from the rest of the community.

5. I suggest that local Military representatives should go and call upon the village groups and invite them over to their camps, aerodromes, etc and generally try to establish mutual respect and confidence.

6. It would be for consideration whether the Police should be associated with the village groups".

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11th August 1942.

My dear Colonel Fraser,

I write to acknowledge the receipt of your D.O. letter No. F. 112/1942 of yesterday, together with an extract of a letter from Lieut.-General Sir Noel Berezford-Peirse, G.O.C., Southern Army, on the subject of co-operation between the civil population in the State and the military. I was, of course, interested in the suggestion for organising village groups as a means of fostering such co-operation to begin with. I am asking Mr. Kesaviengar, our Liaison Officer, to meet you and a Staff Officer, as suggested, for a discussion of the details of the scheme.

Yours Sincerely

Sd. N. Madhava Rao

The Hon'ble  
Lieut.-Colonel D. de M. S. Fraser, C.I.E.,  
Resident in Mysore,  
BANGALORE.

1/8/42

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C-2.3

11th August 1942.

My dear Kesaviengar,

I heroin enclose for needful  
action a letter with its enclosure received  
from the Hon'ble the Resident on the  
subject of co-operation between the civil  
population in the State and the military.  
I am also sending copy of my reply for  
your information.

Yours sincerely,

Sd. N. Madhava Rau

Rajasevaprakasht  
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,  
Revenue Commissioner in Mysore,  
BANGALORE.

RECEIVED 11/8/42

18/8/42